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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Hungyu H. Hou; Hassan M. Hanjani; and A. Karl Rapp
 Title: Voltage Detector Circuit With A Programmable Threshold Point
 Application No.: 09/780,208
 Filing Date: February 9, 2001
 Examiner: Paresh H. Patel
 Group Art Unit: 2829
 Confirmation No.: 6979
 Law Office: Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP
 Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action dated April 8, 2003, which requires a restriction election to be made. According to the Examiner, "the timely submission under 37 C.F.R. 1.129(a) filed on 12/30/2002 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because applicant forget to elect claims."

06/09/2003 AMISE1 00000005 501577 JP 1256 In the prior Office Action mailed December 3, 2002, the Examiner stated, "Claims 01 FC:1251 110.00, 16, 21, 36, 37, and 43 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising (1) Species of fig. 1-2 and (2) Species of fig. 4. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species, even though this requirement is traversed." The Examiner did not identify any claims to elect, nor did the Examiner indicate that claims should be elected in addition to species.

In a telephone discussion with the Examiner on April 25, 2003, the undersigned Applicants' attorney informed the Examiner that no groups of claims had been identified for election by the Examiner in either of the Office Actions of December 2, 2002 or April 8, 2003. The Examiner told the Applicants' attorney that the various pending claims should be separated into groups that are directed to either Species 1 or Species 2 noted in

the Office Action of December 2, 2002, after which the Applicants should elect one group of claims for further prosecution. The Examiner and the Applicants' attorney agreed that they would both review the claims to consider how the claims should be grouped. The Examiner indicated that he would prepare an Interview Summary for the telephone discussion.

Without hearing further from the Examiner, Applicants' attorney called the Examiner on May 9, 2003 to inquire if the Examiner had separated the pending claims into groups for election. The Applicants' attorney noted that it was his understanding that the Examiner would provide Applicants with claim groups from which an election could be made. In response, the Examiner indicated that he had not grouped the claims, but reminded Applicants' attorney that they had agreed that both the Examiner and the Applicants' attorney would review the claims. This was clearly a mis-communication between the Examiner and the Applicants' attorney.

Applicants have now reviewed the pending claims and have identified Claims 1-33, 35, and 37-48 as being directed to the Species of Figs. 1 and 2. Applicants hereby elect Claims 1-33, 35, and 37-48 for further examination in the above-referenced patent application, with traverse.

Because there was a mis-communication between the Examiner and the Applicants, the Applicants do not believe that any fee for extension of time is proper. Nonetheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1597.

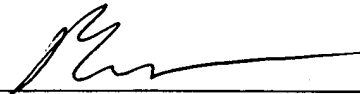
Applicants respectfully request that the Application be examined. Should the Examiner wish to discuss the Application, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (415) 772-1200.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.:

Respectfully submitted,

EU 962 647 770 US

By:



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May 9, 2003
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